

Central Intelligence Agency



Washington, D.C. 20505

DD/A Registry  
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18 APR 1983

Dr. A. Bartlett Giamatti  
President  
Yale University  
New Haven, Connecticut 06520

Dear Bart:

Thank you for your letter of April 4, 1983, regarding the research project on the contributions of Yale men to the intelligence effort during World War II. You made particular reference to the discovery of fifteen documents in the papers of the late Norman Holmes Pearson.

If you will have the documents sent to us, we will have them reviewed under the mandatory classification review provisions of Executive Order 12356. I understand that arrangements for their receipt have been discussed with [redacted] General Counsel for Yale University, and representatives of the office of [redacted] the Information and Privacy Coordinator for the Agency. I trust that this approach is acceptable to you and that the handling of this matter by our representatives will prove beneficial to your researchers.

We understand the time constraints under which scholars and students work. I am afraid, however, that we cannot give this review expedited treatment, as this would be unfair to the many other scholars who are patiently waiting for their information request to arrive at the head of our processing queue. We have at this time a backlog of some 2,700 requests, and we must try to be fair to everyone. The very rare exceptions to our first-in, first-out processing are those in which some humanitarian urgency such as a court trial or the need for medical records demands that we act on a request out of queue. We will, however, have the documents reviewed for the declassification of all possible information as quickly as we are able.

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I very much appreciate your consideration of the Agency's interests in this matter.

Yours,

*William J. Casey*  
William J. Casey  
Director of Central Intelligence

*Bart*

*We'll do the best we can - but  
our lawyers believe that taking anything  
out of order could undermine our legal  
position in handling requests under the  
Freedom of Information Act.*

*I worked closely with Norman  
Pearson in London and his  
documents will be of interest to me  
and I hope we will be able to  
process them to your satisfaction*  
*Bob*

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